

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

The present Amendment to the instant application is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and the corresponding fee under § 1.17(e). A Final Office Action in this case was mailed September 18, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified U.S. Patent Application, as follows: